

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1           1.    An alkaline storage battery comprising a negative  
2    electrode, a positive electrode comprising nickel hydroxide as a  
3    positive electrode active material, and an alkaline electrolyte,  
4    wherein the negative electrode comprises (a) a hydrogen absorbing  
5    alloy represented by  $\text{Ln}_{1-x}\text{Mg}_x\text{Ni}_{y-a}\text{M}_a$  (where Ln is at least one element  
6    selected from rare earth elements, M is at least one element  
7    selected from the group consisting of Al, V, Nb, Ta, Cr, Mo, Mn,  
8    Fe, Co, Ga, Zn, Sn, In, Cu, Si and P,  $0.05 \leq x < 0.20$ ,  $2.8 \leq y \leq 3.9$  and  
9     $0.10 \leq a \leq 0.50$ ) and (b) carbon as a conductive agent, and hydrogen  
10   content in the hydrogen absorbing alloy is not greater than 0.01  
11   weight % when the battery is activated and is discharged to 1.0 V  
12   at one hour rate (It).

1           2.    An alkaline storage battery comprising a negative  
2    electrode, a positive electrode comprising nickel hydroxide as a  
3    positive electrode active material, and an alkaline electrolyte,  
4    wherein the negative electrode comprises (a) a hydrogen absorbing  
5    alloy represented by  $\text{Ln}_{1-x}\text{Mg}_x\text{Ni}_{y-a}\text{M}_a$  (where Ln is at least one element  
6    selected from rare earth elements, M is at least one element  
7    selected from the group consisting of Al, V, Nb, Ta, Cr, Mo, Mn,

8 Fe, Co, Ga, Zn, Sn, In, Cu, Si and P,  $0.05 \leq x < 0.20$ ,  $2.8 \leq y \leq 3.9$  and  
9  $0.10 \leq a \leq 0.50$ ) and (b) carbon as a conductive agent, and water  
10 content in hydrogen absorbing alloy is not greater than 0.13 weight  
11 % when the battery is activated and is discharged to 1.0 V at one  
12 hour rate ( $I_t$ ).

1 3. The alkaline storage battery according to claim 1,  
2 wherein the carbon is acetylene black and/or ketjen black.

1 4. The alkaline storage battery according to claim 2,  
2 wherein the carbon is acetylene black and/or ketjen black.